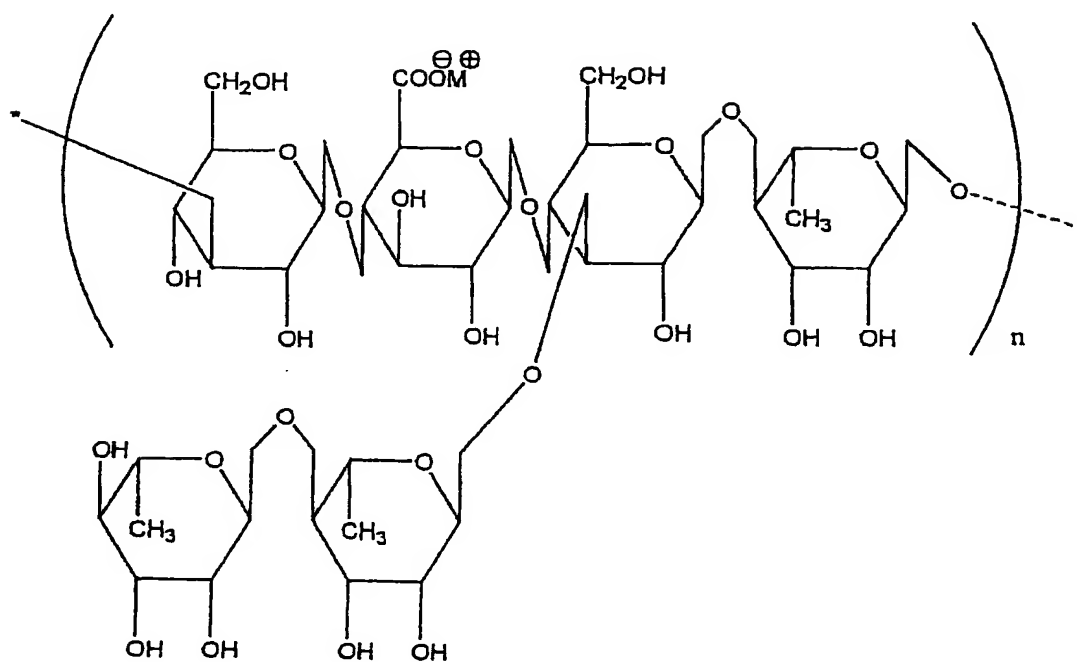


What is claimed is:

1. A water-based ink composition characterized by containing 0.01 to 1.0 % by weight of high molecular saccharides represented by Formula 1 as an essential component in the ink composition:

Formula 1



2. A ballpoint pen prepared by charging an ink reservoir with the water-based ink composition as described in claim 1.